Java 8 Feature[Important Only]

Lambda Expressions in Java

1. Concept

What is a Lambda Expression?

A **Lambda Expression** is a concise way to represent an **anonymous function** (a function without a name) that can be passed as a parameter or assigned to a variable. It allows writing more concise and functional-style code, introduced in **Java 8**.

Why Do We Need Lambda Expressions?

- 1. Simplifies Code: Reduces the verbosity of anonymous inner classes.
- 2. Functional Programming: Enables functional-style programming in Java.
- 3. Improves Readability: Code becomes cleaner and easier to understand.
- 4. **Reusability**: Functions can be reused as behavior without wrapping them into full classes.

2. How Does It Work?

Syntax

The syntax of a lambda expression is:

```
(parameters) → expression
(parameters) → { statements; }
```

Key Components

- 1. **Parameters**: Represent the input to the lambda expression (can be omitted if there is a single parameter).
- 2. Arrow Token (>): Separates parameters from the body.

3. **Body**: The logic of the lambda, which can be a single expression or a block of statements.

Example:

```
(int a, int b) → a + b
```

3. Detailed Example

Using Anonymous Inner Class

```
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;
public class AnonymousInnerClassExample {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    List<String> names = new ArrayList<>();
    names.add("Alice");
    names.add("Bob");
    names.add("Charlie");
    // Using Anonymous Inner Class
    names.forEach(new java.util.function.Consumer<String>() {
       @Override
       public void accept(String name) {
         System.out.println(name);
    });
  }
}
```

Using Lambda Expression

```
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;

public class LambdaExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
     List<String> names = new ArrayList<>();
     names.add("Alice");
     names.add("Bob");
     names.add("Charlie");

   // Using Lambda Expression
     names.forEach(name → System.out.println(name));
   }
}
```

4. Explanation of Lambda Code

1. Before (Verbose Code):

- An anonymous inner class is created to implement the Consumer functional interface.
- This is verbose and requires additional boilerplate code.

2. After (Concise Code):

- The lambda expression directly passes behavior (name → System.out.println(name)) as an argument.
- Eliminates the need for boilerplate code like <a href="new Consumer<String>()">new Consumer<String>() .

5. Key Use Cases

1. Functional Interfaces

Lambda expressions work only with functional interfaces (interfaces with a single abstract method).

Example: Functional Interface

```
@FunctionalInterface
interface Greeting {
   void sayHello(String name);
}

public class FunctionalInterfaceExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      // Using Lambda
      Greeting greeting = name → System.out.println("Hello, " + name);
      greeting.sayHello("Alice");
   }
}
```

2. Collections

Lambdas simplify operations on collections.

Example: Filtering a List

```
}
```

3. Custom Sorting

Lambdas are useful for custom sorting using Comparator.

Example: Sorting Names by Length

```
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.Collections;
import java.util.List;

public class SortingExample {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        List<String> names = new ArrayList<>();
        names.add("Alice");
        names.add("Bob");
        names.add("Charlie");

        // Custom Sorting
        Collections.sort(names, (name1, name2) → name1.length() - name2.length());

        System.out.println("Sorted by Length: " + names);
    }
}
```

6. Advanced Lambda Features

Method References

A **method reference** is a shorthand for a lambda that calls a specific method. It is represented by ClassName::methodName.

Example:

```
import java.util.Arrays;

public class MethodReferenceExample {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        String[] names = {"Alice", "Bob", "Charlie"};

    // Using Method Reference
    Arrays.stream(names).forEach(System.out::println);
    }
}
```

Capturing Variables

Lambdas can capture local variables (effectively final).

Example:

```
public class VariableCaptureExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      String greeting = "Hello";

      Runnable runnable = () → System.out.println(greeting); // Captures 'greeting'
      runnable.run();
   }
}
```

7. Advantages of Lambda Expressions

- 1. Conciseness: Eliminates boilerplate code.
- 2. **Improved Readability**: Code is cleaner and easier to understand.
- 3. Functional Programming: Enables a declarative coding style.
- 4. Compatibility: Works seamlessly with Java's existing APIs like Streams.

8. Limitations of Lambda Expressions

- 1. Single Abstract Method: Works only with functional interfaces.
- 2. **Readability with Complex Logic**: Lambdas with complex bodies may reduce readability.
- 3. **Debugging**: Debugging inside a lambda expression can be challenging.

Functional Interfaces in Java

What is a Functional Interface?

A **functional interface** in Java is an interface that contains exactly one abstract method. Functional interfaces are used to represent a single functionality and are primarily intended for lambda expressions and method references.

- **Definition**: An interface with one and only one abstract method is called a functional interface.
- **Purpose**: To enable functional programming in Java by using lambda expressions to represent instances of functional interfaces.
- · Key Points:
 - Annotated with <a>@FunctionalInterface (optional but recommended for clarity).
 - Can have default and static methods, but only one abstract method.

Why Functional Interfaces?

- Lambda Support: Enables lambda expressions, making code concise and readable.
- 2. **Improved Readability**: Reduces boilerplate code in comparison to anonymous classes.
- 3. **Standardized Patterns**: Simplifies implementation of common operations like filtering, mapping, consuming, or supplying data.
- 4. **Built-In Functional Interfaces**: Java 8 introduced many functional interfaces in the java.util.function package for common use cases.

Concept and Example of Functional Interfaces

Example: Custom Functional Interface

```
@FunctionalInterface
interface MyFunctionalInterface {
   void display(String message);
}

public class FunctionalInterfaceExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      // Using a lambda expression to implement the interface
      MyFunctionalInterface example = (message) → System.out.println(message);
      example.display("Hello, Functional Interface!");
   }
}
```

Explanation:

- MyFunctionalInterface has a single abstract method display.
- A lambda expression (message) → System.out.println(message) is used to implement it.

Common Functional Interfaces

Java provides several built-in functional interfaces in the java.util.function package. Let's explore the commonly used ones:

1. Predicate<T>

- Definition: Represents a function that takes one argument and returns a boolean value.
- Purpose: Used for filtering or testing conditions.
- Abstract Method: boolean test(T t)

Example: Filtering Even Numbers

```
import java.util.function.Predicate;
```

```
import java.util.Arrays;
import java.util.List;

public class PredicateExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
     Predicate<Integer> isEven = (number) → number % 2 == 0;

   List<Integer> numbers = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6);
   numbers.stream()
     .filter(isEven) // Apply the Predicate
     .forEach(System.out::println); // Output: 2, 4, 6
  }
}
```

- The isEven Predicate checks whether a number is even.
- Used with filter to process a stream of numbers.

2. Function<T, R>

- **Definition**: Represents a function that takes one argument of type T and returns a result of type R.
- Purpose: Used for data transformation.
- Abstract Method: R apply(T t)

Example: Transforming Strings to Uppercase

```
import java.util.function.Function;
import java.util.Arrays;
import java.util.List;

public class FunctionExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Function<String, String> toUpperCase = (input) → input.toUpperCase
();
```

```
List<String> names = Arrays.asList("alice", "bob", "charlie");
names.stream()
.map(toUpperCase) // Apply the Function
.forEach(System.out::println); // Output: ALICE, BOB, CHARLIE
}
}
```

- The toUpperCase Function transforms a string to uppercase.
- Used with map to process each element in the list.

3. Consumer<T>

- **Definition**: Represents a function that takes one argument and performs an operation without returning a result.
- **Purpose**: Used for performing actions like logging or printing.
- Abstract Method: void accept(T t)

Example: Printing a List

```
import java.util.function.Consumer;
import java.util.Arrays;
import java.util.List;

public class ConsumerExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
      Consumer<String> printName = (name) → System.out.println("Hello, "
      + name);

   List<String> names = Arrays.asList("Alice", "Bob", "Charlie");
      names.forEach(printName); // Output: Hello, Alice; Hello, Bob; Hello, C
   harlie
   }
}
```

- The printName Consumer performs an action (printing) for each input.
- Used with forEach to process a list of names.

4. Supplier<T>

- Definition: Represents a function that takes no arguments and supplies a result.
- **Purpose**: Used for providing or generating data.
- Abstract Method: T get()

Example: Supplying a Random Number

```
import java.util.function.Supplier;
import java.util.Random;

public class SupplierExample {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Supplier<Integer> randomNumberSupplier = () → new Random().nextInt(100);

        System.out.println("Random Number: " + randomNumberSupplier.get ());
     }
}
```

Explanation:

- The randomNumberSupplier Supplier generates a random number.
- Used with get() to retrieve the result.

Comparison of Functional Interfaces

Interface	Arguments	Return Type	Use Case
Predicate <t></t>	1	boolean	Testing conditions or filtering.

Function <t,r></t,r>	1	R	Transforming data.
Consumer <t></t>	1	void	Performing operations like printing/logging.
Supplier <t></t>	0	Т	Supplying or generating data.

Streams API in Java

What is the Streams API?

The **Streams API** in Java, introduced in Java 8, provides a powerful way to process collections of data in a functional and declarative style. It simplifies operations such as filtering, mapping, and reducing collections of data by chaining operations to form pipelines.

Why Streams API?

- 1. **Improved Readability**: Simplifies complex data manipulation tasks with functional-style programming.
- 2. **Efficiency**: Supports parallel processing for better performance.
- 3. **Flexibility**: Processes data without modifying the underlying source.
- 4. **Laziness**: Intermediate operations are lazy, meaning they don't execute until a terminal operation is invoked.

Concepts of Streams API

- **Stream**: A sequence of elements supporting sequential and parallel operations.
- **Pipeline**: Consists of:
 - Source: Input data (e.g., List, Set, Map, arrays).
 - Intermediate Operations: Transform or filter the data (e.g., map, filter).
 - Terminal Operations: Produce a result or a side effect (e.g., collect, forEach).

Example of Streams API

- Source: names list.
- Intermediate Operations:
 - filter: Filters names that start with "C".
 - map: Converts filtered names to uppercase.
- Terminal Operation:
 - collect: Collects the result into a list.

Intermediate Operations

Definition: Intermediate operations are used to transform a stream, and they are lazy, meaning they are not executed until a terminal operation is applied.

Common Intermediate Operations

1. map: Transforms each element in the stream.

- 2. filter: Filters elements based on a condition.
- 3. sorted: Sorts elements in natural or custom order.

Code Examples:

1. map:

1. filter:

1. sorted:

Terminal Operations

Definition: Terminal operations produce a result or a side-effect and trigger the execution of the entire stream pipeline.

Common Terminal Operations

- 1. collect: Collects the elements of the stream into a collection.
- 2. forEach: Performs an action for each element in the stream.
- 3. reduce: Reduces the stream to a single value by combining elements.

Code Examples:

1. collect:

```
import java.util.Arrays;
import java.util.List;
import java.util.Set;
import java.util.stream.Collectors;
public class CollectExample {
```

1. forEach:

1. reduce:

```
}
}
```

Method References

- **Definition**: Simplifies lambda expressions by referring to existing methods.
- Types:
 - Reference to a static method: ClassName::staticMethod
 - Reference to an instance method: instance::method
 - Reference to a constructor: ClassName::new

Example:

```
import java.util.Arrays;

String[] names = { "Alice", "Bob", "Charlie" };
// Using method reference
Arrays.sort(names, String::compareTolgnoreCase);
System.out.println(Arrays.toString(names));
```